Prep for the CS5910 (Capstone Project) course

Renu Balyan posted on Jan 22, 2025 1:47 PM

Hi Everyone,

Wish you all a very **Happy New Year**. Hope you are having some breathing time before the semester starts again. I wanted to contact you regarding your upcoming course and how to prepare and be ready for it.

1. Please make sure that you have completed all the Pre-reqs for this course (CS4501 - S/W Engineering; and especially CS4550 - database and the CS4720 Internet and Web Technologies). **You must complete these 2 courses (CS4550, CS4720) with a C or above grade before you register for this course** - even if you somehow were able to register for this course without completing these courses - I would suggest that you drop out of this course and first complete those 2 courses to avoid any issues while implementing the concepts you learnt in those courses. You will need to be fully comfortable with all the concepts & be able to implement these.
2. This course will constitute mainly implementing an end-to-end project from scratch so you may want to **start thinking about some project ideas that you may want to implement and start researching**on those ideas/topics - what, why, for whom etc. do you want to implement the project. Why is it important? Who does it benefit? What exists in the market and how is yours better than what exists etc. We will discuss this in detail in class and you will move ahead only after you get a go ahead for the idea/project. Therefore, you might want to have maybe 2-3 ideas/projects in mind - DO NOT ASSUME THAT YOUR IDEA IS THE BEST.
3. **You will be working in Teams** (2 maximum) for the project, so you may want to start thinking about who you may want to work with if you have someone in mind & start brainstorming now so that you can start working on it once we have discussed & confirmed your idea for implementation.
4. As mentioned above you will need all the knowledge you can possibly have in Databases and Web development as well as most important is integration of the frontend and backend - which is generally the biggest hurdle that I have seen students struggle with so make sure you are all prepared with those skills, tools that you may need to implement the project etc. **NOTE: Please keep in mind that we will not have time to review all those concepts in class.**
5. Last but not the least and one of the most important since you will be working in teams - you will be dividing your work clearly - who does what but still will be collaborating so that you know how the whole project works - may want to look into different code sharing and versioning tools/techniques - such as **Github**. In addition, you will be required to showcase your **project live**(online) - so may want to think where you will want to deploy your projects, think of a**domain name, cloud services** etc.

We will talk in more detail of the course expectations when we meet in-person the very first day of our class (**MAKE SURE NOT TO MISS THE INTIAL 2-3 CLASSES, THESE ARE V IMPORTANT TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS CLASS)** - but just wanted to give you a heads up so that you can start planning if you have some time during the vacation. The more prepared you are, the sooner you will be able to dive in & more time you will get for implementing your project.

Feel free to email me ([balyanr@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:balyanr@oldwestbury.edu)), if you have any questions.

Looking forward to having a great semester. and seeing your creative work.

- Renu